Ireland's competition watchdog to investigate Ticketmaster Oasis ticket sales



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Ireland's competition watchdog has launched an investigation into Ticketmaster over <u>Oasis</u> ticket sales.

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) said it will look at Ticketmaster's handling of the sale of tickets following "legitimate concerns over how consumers were treated".

Ticketmaster <u>Ireland</u> has said it does not set concert prices and its website states this is down to the "event organiser" who "has priced these tickets according to their market value".

The CCPC has reviewed more than 100 contacts from consumers

who are very disappointed and frustrated about their experience of buying tickets for Oasis concerts

Brian McHugh, CCPC

The CCPC said it took the decision to investigate the handling of the ticket sales after it reviewed more than 100 complaints from customers.

Liam and <u>Noel Gallagher</u> confirmed the <u>Britpop</u> band's longawaited reunion with a worldwide tour last week by saying: "The great wait is over."

Many fans were shocked by the price of standard tickets for the Oasis reunion tour, including for two dates at Croke Park in Dublin, rising steeply on Ticketmaster.

A number were also left angry and disappointed after being left empty-handed, having waited in an online queue for hours to buy tickets.

Brian McHugh, chairman of the CCPC, said: "The CCPC has reviewed more than 100 contacts from consumers who are very disappointed and frustrated about their experience of buying tickets for Oasis concerts.

"While companies in Ireland are allowed to respond to market demand, there are legitimate concerns over how consumers were treated and we have decided that an in-depth investigation is necessary.

"If we find that consumer protection laws were broken we will take action.

"The CCPC is grateful to consumers who have taken the time to call or email our helpline to share their experiences with us as their stories have helped us develop a picture of last weekend's events."

All parties involved did their utmost to deliver the best

possible fan experience but due to the unprecedented demand this became impossible to achieve

Oasis statement earlier in the week

The CCPC said it would welcome written comments and any supporting materials from consumers about their experience of buying, or attempting to buy, Oasis tickets on the weekend of August 31 2024.

Consumers can send them to the investigation team at CEDinvestigation@ccpc.ie

Earlier this week, a number of Fianna Fail politicians launched a bid to ban so-called "dynamic pricing" in Ireland following the controversy.

They said they will introduce a Bill that would extend existing legislation outlawing the resale of tickets above face value, and would also prohibit the sale of tickets for prices that have been adjusted by primary ticket sellers.

Senator Timmy Dooley has said the use of dynamic pricing by primary ticket sellers must be banned.

He and a number of colleagues are to introduce the Sale of <u>Tickets</u> (Cultural, Entertainment, Recreational and Sporting Events) (Amendment) Bill 2024.

On Wednesday, Oasis announced new Wembley Stadium dates using a new ticketing plan following the chaos over the weekend.



AN UNEXPECTED ERROR OCCURRED

THE SITE IS NOT REACHABLE AT THE MOMENT, PLEASE TRY AGAIN IN A FEW MINUTES. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.

A screengrab from the Ticketmaster website showing an error message (PA)

PA Wire

Liam and Noel Gallagher have extended their Live '25 tour to include two more London shows on September 27 and 28 2025, using a new "staggered invitation-only ballot process" with applications to join the ballot opened first to those who were unsuccessful in the initial sale.

A statement said: "It needs to be made clear that Oasis leave decisions on ticketing and pricing entirely to their promoters and management, and at no time had any awareness that dynamic pricing was going to be used.

"While prior meetings between promoters, Ticketmaster and the band's management resulted in a positive ticket sale strategy, which would be a fair experience for fans, including dynamic ticketing to help keep general ticket prices down as well as reduce touting, the execution of the plan failed to meet expectations.

"All parties involved did their utmost to deliver the best possible fan experience but due to the unprecedented demand this became impossible to achieve."